

TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P802703/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/DE2004/002368	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 23.10.2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 06.11.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B23K26/38 B23K26/03		
Applicant MTU AERO ENGINES GMBH		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>1</u> sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-6 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1-5 received by this Authority on 06.08.2005 with letter of 04.05.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
- sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-5</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-5</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-5</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
1.	Reference is made to the following documents:		
	<p>D1: EP 0 937 532 A (M J TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED), 25 August 1999 (1999-08-25)</p> <p>D2: WO 86/02301 (ADVANCED LASER SYSTEMS, INC), 24 April 1986 (1986-04-24)</p>		
2.	<p>Document D1, which is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, discloses the following (the references in parentheses are to D1):</p> <p>A method for checking a drill hole made in a workpiece (4) by laser pulses, wherein characteristic signals are received from the hole by a sensor (1) and are compared with setpoint values (column 3, lines 34 to 35), and only those signals received in a characteristic time interval after a laser pulse are considered.</p> <p>The subject matter of claim 1 differs from the known method in that the characteristic time interval is defined according to the material properties of the workpiece and process parameters of the laser pulse,</p>		

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	<p>such that the time interval does not begin until at least a thin skin of the wall of the drill hole has re-solidified after being melted by a laser pulse, and such the time interval ends as soon as this is followed by a new laser pulse.</p> <p>The problem addressed by the present invention can thus be seen as that of how to make the monitoring process more precise.</p> <p>The solution proposed in claim 1 of the application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) because the aforementioned distinguishing features are not found in the prior art. There is also nothing in the prior art to suggest analysing signals from the drill hole during the course of production; that is, practically pulse by pulse.</p> <p>3. Dependent claims 2 to 6 do not contain any features that meet the PCT requirements in respect of novelty or inventive step when combined with the features of any of the back-referenced claims.</p>